Justification for Temporary Maintenance of the Emergency Act Powers

Organization	Justification
RCMP	• Prevent recurrence of illegal assembly on the streets of Ottawa (s.2). Protestors remain in Ottawa, both in hotels in the secure zone and also at private property staging areas (Metcalfe, Embrun, etc.) • Secure and Protect listed locations (s.6) There are reports that protestors are re-grouping at private property staging sites around Ottawa. A secure zone continues to be required to secure and protect specific sites from any retrenchment. • There are an unknown number of protest participants remaining in the secure zone, including at hotels. The hard perimeter will maintain the ability for these individuals to attempt to re-ignite the illegal demonstrations. • It is believed that significant financial support facilitated and emboldened protest participants. The ability to continue to impede financial support and other assistance to the protestors in Ottawa will assist in preventing repeat blockades. • Ability to leverage these additional powers in public messaging, which has underscored that the Emergencies Act is in place. Revoking or withdrawing the Act now, sends a powerful message to protestors. • Ability of police services across the country to leverage the powers to deter, disperse, and decrease protests around POEs and other key sites in immediate aftermath of Ottawa protest. • The ability to compel tow trucks to assist proved a useful tool, both formally and informally. While the need for this provision has abated, it should be maintained until the threat of recurrence has reduced. • Given the large number of arrested individuals and towed vehicles, maintaining the orders, at least temporarily, will facilitate the processing of charges.
Transport Canada	• Canada's transportation infrastructure is vulnerable, and supply-chains are still in recovery mode. • There remains a continued threat of blockades at various critical trade and transportation corridors directly tied to recent events, and there is a need to avoid further economic damage to the Canadian economy.

	• Another major disruption of trade at the US border on the heels of the $3.9B disruption that just ended would do severe and lasting damage to Canada's reputation as a reliable supplier and trading partner. The impact on the Canadian economy and economic well-being for Canadians would be akin to a massive destruction of property in the order of billions of dollars. Sustaining the EA powers thru next weekend would lessen this risk materially.
Finance/FINTRAC	• In the immediate term, revocation of the financial measures would release funds back to the protestors at a pivotal moment – the decision point between returning to their homes and jobs versus returning to the blockades and protests. To the extent the financial orders were meant to disrupt the protest/occupation movement, they continue to have the desired impact.
PSPC	• Maintaining the EA ensures the alignment of jurisdictions under RCMP/Coordinated Incident Command to maintain the hard perimeter necessary to protect parliament. An alternative approach would be to establish a committee of stakeholders (Ottawa, OPS, RCMP, PSPC, NCC, PS, to ensure coordinated approaches to managing the security of wellington street and other downtown sites. In the immediate term, this option is assessed (based on recent experience) to be less effective than the incident command structure, which was facilitated by the EA.
CBSA / IRCC	• Continued ability to turn back foreign nationals who attempt to enter the country for the purpose of participating in an illegal activity. • Ports of Entry have been protected by the EA measures that empower the police to prevent, disrupt and disperse blockades. This power will be considered for future legislative measures, supported by a comprehensive Charter analysis.